



**IMPROVED THROMBOPLASTIN PREPARATIONS FOR DRY  
REAGENT PROTHROMBIN TIME ASSAYS**

**ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

The improved test articles of the present invention comprise a dry thromboplastin formulation, encased in a test article suitable for applying blood or plasma, coagulation neutral agents used to facilitate uptake and distribution of sample, and a mechanism that detects the time elapsed between the application of sample, and the onset of coagulation within the test article. The improved thromboplastin is selected to maintain high sensitivity and specificity for the prothrombin time reaction while being rehydrated with a test sample. Preferably, the thromboplastin is synthetically prepared by the relipidation of a pure tissue factor preparation, using a lipid fraction that facilitates the solubilization of the tissue factor-lipid thromboplastin complex in aqueous media. In the most preferred embodiment, the thromboplastin is prepared using recombinant DNA synthesized human tissue factor.

SL  
G5/10

08/238842